Token for Children.

Price $3 per Gross.

NEW-HAVEN:
Published by J. Babcock and Son,
and S. Babcock and Co.
Charleston, S. C.

Sidney's Press.—1822.

Miss Christiana Henry.

A

TOKEN

FOR

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DESIGNED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

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John Babcock & Son, New-Haven, and S. Babcock & Co. Charleston, S. C. have constantly on hand, and for sale a large assortment of BOOKS for Children and for Schools.

Token for Children.

Miss Sarah Howley, when she was between eight and nine years old, was carried by her friends to hear a sermon, where the minister preached upon Matt. xi. 30. "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light:" in the application of which scripture, the child was mightily awakened, and made deeply sensible of the condition of her soul, and her need of Christ: she wept bitterly to think what a case she was in;

went home, retired into her chamber, and upon her knees, she wept and cried to the Lord as well as she could, which might be easily perceived by her eyes and countenance.

She was not contented with this, but got her little brother and sister into a chamber with her, and told them their condition by nature, and wept over them, and prayed with them.

After this, she heard another sermon on Proverbs xxix. 1. "He that being often reproved, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy:" at which she was more affected

than before, and was so exceedingly solicitous about her soul, that she spent great part of the night in weeping and praying, and could scarcely take any rest day or night for some time together; desiring with all her soul to escape from everlasting flames, and to get an interest in the Lord Jesus Christ: O what should she do for Christ! what should she do to be saved!

She gave herself much to attend upon the word preached, and still continued very tender under it, greatly relishing what she heard.

She was very much in secret prayer, and was usually very

importunate, and full of tears.

She could scarcely speak of sin, or be spoke to, but her heart was ready to melt.

She spent much time in reading the scripture.

She was exceedingly dutiful to her parents, very loth to grieve them in the least; and if she had at any time, (which was very rare) offended them, she would weep bitterly.

She abhorred lying, and allowed herself in no known sin.

When she was at school, she was eminent for her diligence, teachableness, meekness, and modesty, speaking but little, and when she did speak it was usually spiritual.

She continued in this course of religious duties for some years together.

When she was about fourteen years old, she broke a vein in her lungs,(as is supposed) and often spat blood, yet did a little recover.

In the beginning of January she was taken very bad again, in which sickness she was in great distress of soul. When she was first taken, she said, "O mother, pray for me, for Satan is so busy that I cannot pray for myself: I see I am undone without Christ, and a pardon! O, I am uudone to all eternity!"

Her mother, knowing how

serious she had been formerly, did a little wonder that she should be in such agonies; and asked her what sin it was that was so burdensome to her spirit. "O mother," said she, "it is not any particular sin that sticks so close to my conscience, as the sin of my nature; without the blood of Christ that will damn me."

Her mother asked her, what she should pray for, for her: She answered, "That I may have a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ; and that I may have an assurance of God's love to my soul." Her mother asked her, why she spoke so little to the minister that

came to see hee: She answered, "It was her duty with patience and silence to learn of him."

One time when she fell into a fit, she cried out, "O I am going; I am going: but what shall I do to be saved?—Lord Jesus I will lie at thy feet; and if I perish, it shall be at the fountain of thy mercy."

She was much afraid of presumption, and dreaded a mistake in the matters of her soul, and would be often putting up ejaculations to God. to deliver her from deceiving herself. To instance in one,—"Great and mighty God," said she, "give me faith and true faith;

that I may not be a foolish virgin, having a lamp but no oil."

Her father bade her be of good cheer, because she was going to a better father: at which she fell into a great agony, and said, "but how do I know that? I am a poor sinner, who wants assurance: O, for assurance!" This was her great, earnest, and constant request, to all that came to her, to beg assurance for her; and she would look with so much eagerness upon them, as if she desired nothing in the world so much as that they would pity her, and help her with their prayers. Never was a poor creature more earnest for

any thing than she was for assurance, and the light of God's countenance: O the piteous moan that she would make! O the agonies that her soul was in!

The Lord's day before that on which she died, a kinsman of hers's came to see her, and asked her whether she knew him: She answered, "Yes, I know you, and I desire that you would learn to know Jesus: You are young, but you know not how soon you may die! and O, to die without Jesus is a fearful thing; O, redeem time! O time, time, precious time!" Being requested by him, not to spend herself,

she said, "She would fain do all the good she could while she lived:" upon which account she desired that a sermon might be preached at her funeral, concerning the preciousness of time.

Some ministers who came to see her, earnestly entreated the Lord to give her some token for good, that she might die in full triumph: notes of the same nature were sent to several churches.

After she had so long waited for an answer to their prayers, she said, "Well, I will venture my soul upon Christ."

For the pains and agonies that she was in, her patience

was next to a wonder; Lord, said she, "Lord give me patience, that I may not dishonour thee?"

On Thursday, after long waiting, great fears, and many prayers, when all her friends thought she had been past speaking, to the astonishment of her friends, she broke forth thus, with a very audible voice and cheerful countenance: "O Lord, thou hast promised that whosoever comes unto thee, thou wilt in no wise cast him out:—Lord, I come unto thee, and surely thou wilt in no wise cast me out. O, so sweet! O so glorious is Jesus! I have thee, sweet and glorious Jesus;

he is sweet, he is sweet! O the admirable love of God in sending Christ, and free grace to a poor lost creature!"

Her soul then seemed ravished with the love of Christ. And while she was engaged in magnifying of God, her father, brethren, and sisters, with others of the family were called, to whom she spoke particularly, as her strength would give leave. She gave her Bible as a legacy to one of her brothers, and desired him to use that well for her sake; and added, to him and the rest, "O make use of time to get Christ for your souls: Spend no time in running up and down, or in

playing: O get Christ for your souls, while you are young; Remember now you Creator before you come to a sick bed: Put not off this great work till then, for then you will find it hard work indeed: I know by experience, the devil will tell you it is time enough; and ye are young, and what need ye be in such haste? You will have time enough when you are old.—But remember the words of a dying sister—If you knew how good Christ is! If you had but one taste of his sweetness, you had rather go to him a thousand times, than to stay in this wicked world. I would not for ten

thousand worlds part with my interest in Christ. O how happy am I, that I am going to everlasting joys! I would not go back again for twenty thousand worlds; and will not you strive to get an interest in Christ?"

After this looking upon one of her father's servants, she said, "What shall I do at the great day, when Christ shall say to me, 'Come, thou blessed of my father inherit the kingdom prepared for thee? and shall say to the wicked, 'Go, thou cursed into the lake that burns forever!"— What a grief it is for me to think, that I shall see any of

my friends that I knew upon earth, turned into that lake which burns forever! O that word, forever! I speak these words to you, but they are nothing, except God speaks to you too: O pray, that God would give you grace!" And then she prayed, "O Lord, finish thy work upon their souls: It will be my comfort to see you in glory; but it will be your everlasting happiness."

On Friday, after she had had such lively discoveries of God's love, she was exceedingly desirous to die, and cried out,—"Come, Lord Jesus, O come quickly! Conduct me

to thy tabernacle. I am a poor creature without thee: but, Lord Jesus, my soul longs to be with thee: O when shall it be? Why not now, dear Jesus? Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly! But why do I thus speak? Thy time, dear Lord, is the best: O, give me patience.'

On Saturday she spoke but little, being very drowsy, yet now and then she dropt these words, "How long, sweet Jesus? Finish thy work, sweet Jesus: Come away Lord Jesus, come quickly!"

On the Lord's day she said but very little. She requested that notes of thanksgiving

might be sent to those who had formerly prayed for her, that they might help her to praise the Lord for that full assurance which he had given her of his love; aud seemed to be swallowed up with the thoughts of God's free love to her soul. She commended her spirit often into the hands of the Lord. The last words she was heard to utter, were these, "Lord, help, Lord Jesus, help! dear Lord Jesus, blessed Jesus!" Thus, on the Lord's day, between nine and ten o'clock in the evening, she sweetly slept in Jesus, and began an everlasting Sabbath, Feb. 19th, 1670.

EXAMPLE SECOND.

Tabitha Alder was daughter of a minister in Kent, who lived near Gravesend. She was instructed in the Holy Scriptures, by her father and mother; but there appeared nothing extraordinary in her, till she was between seven and eight years old.

About which time, when she was sick, one asked her, what she thought would become of her if she should die? She answered, that she was greatly afraid she should go to hell.

Being asked, Why she was afraid she should go to hell!

She answered because she did not love God.

Again: Being asked how she knew that she did not love God? She replied.—"What have I done for God ever since I was born? And besides this I have been taught that he who loves God, keeps his commandments; but I have kept none of them."

Being further demanded, if she would not fain love God? She answered, "Yes, with all my heart if I could, but I find it a hard thing to love one I do not see."

She was advised to beg of God a heart to love him: She answered, "I am afraid it is too late."

Upon this, seeing her in so desponding a condition, one of her friends spent the next day in fasting and prayer for her.

After this, that friend asked her how she did now? She answered with a great deal of joy, "Now I bless the Lord; I love the Lord Jesus dearly; I feel I do love him. O, I love him dearly."

Why, said her friend, did you not say, yesterday, you did not love the Lord, and that you could not? "Sure, said she it was Satan hindered me. But now I love him: O, blessed be God, for the Lord Jesus Christ."

After this she had a discov-

ery of her approaching dissolution, which was no small comfort to her: "Anon, said she, (with a holy triumph) I shall be with Jesus. I am married to him, he is my Husband, I am his bride; I have given myself to him, and he hath given himself to me, and I shall live with him forever."

This language struck the hearers with astonishment: She still continued in a kind of ecstacy of joy: admiring the excellency of Christ, rejoicing in her interest in him, and longing to be with him.

After a while, some of her friends, who stood near her, observed a more than ordina-

ry earnestness and fixedness in her countenance; they said one to another,—"Look how earnestly she looks; sure she sees something!"

One asked her, what it was that she fixed her eyes upon so eagerly? I warrant, says one, she saw death coming.

No, said she, it is the glory that I saw, it is that on which my eyes were fixed.

One demanded of her, what the glory was like? She replied, "I cannot tell what, but I am going to it: will you go with me? I am going to glory. O that you were all going with me to that glory!" Her soul took wings with these words,

and went to the possession of that glory. She died when she was between eight and nine years of age.

EXAMPLE THIRD.

Jacob Bicks was born in Leyden, in the year 1657. He was visited with sickness upon the sixth of August, 1664. In his sickness he was very sleepy, till near his death; but when he did awake, he was wont to fall a praying.

Once when his parents had prayed with him, they asked him, if they should once more send for the physician? No, said he, I will have the doctor no more; the Lord will help

me; I know he will take me to himself.

When his parents had prayed with him, he said, "Come, now, dear father and mother, and kiss me: I know that I shall die. Farewell, dear father and mother; farewell, dear sister; farewell all. Now shall I go unto God and Jesus Christ, and the holy angels. Father, know you not what is said by Jeremiah? 'Blessed is he who trusteth in the Lord.' Now I trust in him, and he will bless me. And in 1 John ii. it is said, "Little children, love not the world, for the world passeth away."

"Away then all that is in

the world, away with all my pleasant things in the world; away with my dagger, for where I go there is nothing to do with daggers and swords; men shall not fight there, but praise God. Away with all my books, there shall I learn true wisdom without books."

His father said, "My dear child, the Lord will be near thee and uphold thee."

Yea, father, (said he) the apostle Peter saith, "God resisteth the proud, but he giveth grace to the humble." I humble myself under the powerful hand of God, and he shall help me, and lift me up.

"O, my dear child, (said his

father) hast thou so strong faith?"

"Yes, (said he) God hath given me so strong a faith in himself through Jesus Christ, that the devil shall flee from me: for it is said, he who believeth in the Son hath everlasting life, and he hath overcome the wicked one. Now I believe in Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, and he will not leave nor forsake me, but will give unto me eternal life, and then I shall sing, holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Sabaoth."

Then with these words,—"Lord, be merciful unto me, a poor sinner," he quietly gave up his soul, being about seven years old.

A HYMN.

Youth invited to love Christ.

Ye hearts, with youthful vigour warm,
  In smiling crowds, draw near ;
And turn from every mortal charm,
  A Saviour's voice to hear.

He, Lord of all the worlds on high,
  Stoops to converse with you ;
And lays his radiant glories by,
  Your friendship to pursue.

" The soul that longs to see my face,
  " Is sure my love to gain ;
" And those that early seek my grace,
  " Shall never seek in vain."

What object, Lord my soul should move,
  If once compared with thee ?
What beauty should command my love,
  Like what in Christ I see?

Away, ye false. delusive toys,
  Vain tempters of the mind !
'Tis here I fix my lasting choice,
  And here true bliss I find.